AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-8 (cancelled).

9. (withdrawn) A method for securing at least one ligament to a bone within a new bone tunnel adjacent to an old bone tunnel, with the new bone tunnel and the old bone tunnel in overlapping configuration with one another, the new bone tunnel forming a mouth and having at least one ligament extending through the mouth, the at least one ligament and the mouth of the new bone tunnel forming an interstitial space, said system comprising:

providing a ligament shim for insertion into the new bone tunnel, said ligament shim comprising:

a body having a first end and a second end, a longitudinal axis from said first end to said second end, and at least two walls extending substantially parallel to said longitudinal axis;

a portion of said body from said first end and said second end defining a cross-sectional area in a plane substantially perpendicular to said

longitudinal axis, said cross-sectional area of said portion of said body being slightly oversized relative to a portion of the interstitial space between the wall of the new bone tunnel and the at least one ligament in a plane substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis; and

positioning said shim in the interstitial space of the new bone tunnel between the at least one ligament and the old bone tunnel so as to close off the new bone tunnel from the old bone tunnel, and so as to keep the at least one ligament from falling into the old bone tunnel.

10. (withdrawn) A system for securing at least one ligament to a bone within a bone tunnel, the bone tunnel forming a mouth and having at least one ligament extending through the mouth, the at least one ligament and the mouth forming an interstitial space, said system comprising:

suspension means for suspending the at least one ligament within the bone tunnel; and

a shim being separate from said suspension means and configured to gently urge the at least one ligament toward a wall of the bone tunnel.

11. (withdrawn) A system for securing at least one ligament to a bone within a bone tunnel according to claim 10, wherein said suspension means are positioned in the bone tunnel distal to said shim.

12. (withdrawn) A system for securing at least one ligament to a bone within a bone tunnel according to claim 11, wherein said suspension means and said shim do not contact one another.

13. (withdrawn) A system according to claim 10, wherein said suspension means comprise at least one of a group consisting of an interference screw used to aggressively wedge the at least one ligament against the wall of the bone tunnel; a suture used to suspend the at least one ligament in the bone tunnel; a cross-pin used to suspend the at least one ligament in the bone tunnel; a screw and washer arrangement used to

affix the at least one ligament to the outside of the bone after passing the at least one ligament completely through the bone tunnel; and a staple used to affix the at least one ligament to the outside of the bone after passing the at least one ligament completely through the bone tunnel.

Claim 14 (new): A ligament shim for insertion into a bone tunnel, the ligament shim comprising:

a body having a first end and a second end, and an axis extending from the first end to the second end;

the first and second ends being substantially planar and of substantially the same configuration in plan view, substantially the same size, and normal to the axis;

at least two surfaces extending from the first end to the second end and substantially parallel to the axis;

at least one of the two surfaces being arc-shaped; and

a shim hole extending from the arc-shaped surface to the other of said two surfaces, said body being otherwise devoid of any further opening.

Claim 15 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein said one arc-shaped surface extends outwardly from the axis.

Claim 16 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 15 wherein the other of said at least one of two surfaces being arc-shaped is a flat surface.

Claim 17 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 16 wherein said shim hole extends from a crest of said one arc-shaped surface to the other of said two surfaces.

Claim 18 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein said two surfaces are arc-shaped surfaces and are opposed surfaces and extend inwardly toward each other.

Claim 19 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 18 wherein said shim hole extends from a first of said arc-shaped surfaces to a second of said arc-shaped surfaces.

Claim 20 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein said two surfaces are arc-shaped and opposed to each other, a first of the arc-shaped surfaces extending outwardly from the axis and a second of the arc-shaped surfaces extending inwardly toward the axis.

Claim 21 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 20 wherein said shim hole extends from a crest of the first arc-shaped surface to a mid-arc portion of the second arc-shaped surface.

Claim 22 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein said at least two surfaces extending from the first end to the second end

comprise four surfaces including two arc-shaped surfaces and two substantially flat parallel surfaces.

Claim 23 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein said at least two surfaces extending from the first end to the second end comprise four surfaces including two arc-shaped surfaces and two outwardly rounded surfaces.

Claim 24 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein end edges of one of said first and second ends are rounded to provide atraumatic bearing surfaces.

Claim 25 (new): The ligament shim in accordance with claim 14 wherein end edges of one of said first and second ends are bevelled to provide atraumatic bearing surfaces.